

## Message Text

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SUBJECT: MEXICAN PRESS REPORTS INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE  
DISCUSSION ON NARCOTICS

1. SUMMARY: SEVERAL MEXICO CITY DAILIES FEB 27 CARRIED REPORTS BY THEIR CORRESPONDENTS IN ATLANTA, CONCERNING THE SIXTEENTH MEXICO/U.S. INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE DISCUSSION OF THE NARCOTICS PROBLEM. STATEMENTS QUOTED WERE MADE BY CONGRESSMEN WOLFF AND GILMAN FOR THE U.S., AND SENATOR SUAREZ TORRES ON THE MEXICAN SIDE. CAPSULIZATION OF REMARKS GIVEN BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. CONGRESSMEN WOLFF AND GILMAN REPORTEDLY MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. NINETY PERCENT OF HEROIN REACHING U.S. IS PRODUCED IN OR TRANSITS MEXICO. THIS MARKET IN U.S. HAS TOTAL COMMERCIAL VALUE OF TWENTY BILLION DOLLARS.

B. THE GOM ANTI-NARCOTIC EFFORTS ARE VERY COMMENDABLE, BUT HAVE BEEN INSUFFICIENT.

C. SOME MEXICAN POPPY FIELDS ARE PRODUCING TWO, EVEN THREE, CROPS PER YEAR.

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D. THERE IS STRONG RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HEROIN AND MARI-

JUANA TRAFFICKERS. THEY USE SAME CLANDESTINE ROUTES, SAME ORGANIZATIONS. TO DEEMPHASIZE MARIJUANA IN U.S. IS TO MAKE ENFORCEMENT AGAINST HEROIN THAT MUCH MORE DIFFICULT.

E. THE CONGRESSMEN PRONOUNCED THEMSELVES IN FAVOR OF THE USE OF HERBICIDES AGAINST POPPY AND MARIJUANA.

F. THEY PRAISED GOM STRENGTHENING OF JUDICIAL BRANCH, CITING DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN RECENTLY AGAINST THREE FEDERAL JUDGES ACCUSED OF RECEIVING 600,000 DOLLARS FROM NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS.

3. FOR THE MEXICAN DELEGATION, SENATOR GILBERTO SUAREZ TORRES REPORTEDLY MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS:

A. WITHIN NEXT THREE MONTHS, ALL PLANTATIONS IN SINALOA, CHIHUAHUA AND DURANGO WILL BE DESTROYED, MAKING TOTAL OF NINE STATES IN WHICH POPPY HAS BEEN ERADICATED.

B. GOM IS USING HERBICIDES, BUT THESE DO NOT DAMAGE LEGITIMATE AGRICULTURE OR HUMAN NUTRITION.

C. DESTRUCTION OF THESE FIELDS DOES NOT MEAN THE END OF THE PROBLEM, WHICH WILL COME ONLY WHEN TRAFFICKERS AND GROWERS ARE CONVINCED THAT THEY CANNOT ACHIEVE A SINGLE HARVEST. THUS CAMPAIGN MUST BE PERMANENT.

D. SUAREZ TORRES REJECTED CATEGORICALLY CHARGES THAT U.S. PRISONERS ARE MISTREATED IN MEXICAN PRISONS.

E. NARCOTICS PERSONNEL ATTACHED TO U.S. EMBASSY IN MEXICO CITY ACT ONLY IN AN INFORMATIVE CAPACITY AND IN NO WAY EXERCISE POLICE FUNCTIONS.

F. THERE IS CONFUSION CAUSED BY DIFFERENT U.S. GROUPS WHICH ON ONE HAND CRITICIZE GOM FOR NOT SOLVING NARCOTICS PROBLEM, WHILE U.S.G. ON OTHER HAND PRAISES GOM FOR ITS EFFORTS.

4. AT END OF DISCUSSION, BOTH DELEGATIONS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE ISSUED A JOINT DECLARATION WHICH STATED IN PART:

A. THIS IS NEITHER UNILATERAL NOR BILATERAL PROBLEM, BUT ONE WHICH THREATENS ALL HUMANITY.

B. PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA IS TO BE THANKED FOR HIS SUGGESTION TO CREATE TWIN U.S. AND MEXICAN NARCOTICS COMMISSIONS.

C. A MIXED COMMITTEE OF U.S. AND MEXICAN LEGISLATORS SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED TO DEAL WITH DRUG PROBLEM ON A PERMANENT BASIS.

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D. FOR ITS PART, U.S. DELEGATION RECOGNIZED AND EXPRESSED THANKS FOR GOM EFFORTS IN "VERITABLE WAR AGAINST NARCOTICS TRAFFIC."

E. SOME MEXICAN DELEGATES EXPRESSED MISGIVING THAT (U.S.) FAILURE TO PUNISH USE OF MARIJUANA ONLY ENCOURAGED POSITION OF SOME GROUPS SEEKING THE LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA.

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